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ATTACHMENT 2

HELIO CORPORATION PUBLICITY RELEASE

1. The Helio Aircraft Corporation, Norwood, Massachusetts, announced today an all new, twin engine, executive transport aircraft. The Helio Model 500 is an all metal, high wing monoplane powered by two Lycoming 250 horsepower air-cooled engines. The Model 500 is designed for future growth potential of conversion to turbo-prop power for increased take-off performance when the 250 - 300 horsepower light turbine powerplant, now under development, is available on a production basis.

2. Basic weight of the airplane is approximately 3100 pounds. The airplane has a seating capacity of six including the pilot, co-pilot, and four passengers, seated two abreast in three seats. Capable of operating from short unprepared or semi-prepared airstrips, the airplane will cruise over 800 statute miles on 120 gallons of fuel at a take-off weight of 4500 pounds. Under the provisions of CAR 8, the maximum allowable gross weight is expected to be 5700 pounds.

3. The Helio Model 500 employs several unique design features for this type of aircraft. The special features include a helicopter type high visibility nose for close ground surveillance during take-off, low altitude cruise, and landing; a slatted leading edge high lift wing; and an enclosed steel tube cabin for increased occupant protection. A fixed landing gear is provided where minimum maintenance and exceptional ruggedness are required. A retractable gear will be an optional item at a later date. Future adaptability will also include a float installation, thus making the 500 the only twin engine light plane with water base capability.

4. The first two Model 500's have been purchased by the Air Force. Delivery of the first plane is anticipated for early January 1960. The Air Force airplanes, designated the U-4, will receive extensive testing at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, for fulfillment of resupply and rescue operational missions.